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**BOROUGH OF BIDEFORD.**

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# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**ON**

## **THE HEALTH OF BIDEFORD**

**VITAL STATISTICS,**

**SANITARY WORKS, &c.,**

**FOR THE YEAR**

**1953**

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**BY**

**ELLIS PEARSON, F.R.C.S., MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**AND**

**A. E. T. NETTING, M.S.I.A., SANITARY INSPECTOR**



## Public Health Staff

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*Medical Officer of Health,*  
*Medical Officer for Child Welfare Centre—*  
ELLIS PEARSON, F.R.C.S.

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*Sanitary Inspector,*  
*Inspector of Meat and Foods—*  
A. E. T. NETTING, M.S.I.A.



## To the Bideford Town Council.

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Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting herewith my Annual Report for the year ended December 31st, 1953.

I am pleased to state the district continues to hold its own as a Health Resort as will be seen from the General Statistics given in the several Tables.

I am, Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen

Yours faithfully,

ELLIS PEARSON.

August, 1954.

## Annual Report

### General Statistics.

Area (Statute Acres) .....	4,068
Population (1951) Census .....	10,200
Registrar-General's Estimate of Population, 1953 .....	10,210
Number of Inhabited Houses .....	3,243
Rateable Value .....	£72,053
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (approximate) .....	£289

### Vital Statistics.

Live Births	<div> <div> Legitimate—Males 60   Females 75  Illegitimate—Males 4   Females 7 </div> </div>	146
Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population		14.29
Still Births	<div> <div> Legitimate Males 1   Females —  Illegitimate Males 1   Females — </div> </div>	2
Still Births, Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births		13.51
Deaths—Males 70, Females, 82 .....		152
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population		14.89
Deaths from Puerperal Causes	<div> Puerperal Sepsis  Other Puerperal Causes </div>	—
Deaths from Puerperal Causes, Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births .....		—
Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—		
All Infants per 1,000 live births (5 deaths) .....		34.25
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		29.63
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate Live Births      1 Death .....		90.91
Deaths from Cancer (all ages) .....		24
,,      Measles (all ages) .....		—
,,      Whooping Cough (all ages) .....		—
,,      Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age) .....		—

## Legislation in Force

### ADOPTIVE PUBLIC GENERAL ACTS.

Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890	15th June, 1893
Private Street Works Act, 1892	
Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907— Parts 2 (except Sec. 29), Parts 3, 4 and 6 Parts 7 (except Secs. 82, 84, 85 and 86) Parts 8, 9 and Part 10 (except Sec. 94)	April, 1909
Public Health Act, 1925, Part 5	26th January, 1926
Section 1 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 applied to Sheep, Ewes, Wethers, Rams and Lambs (as regards old area)	1st February, 1934
Ditto (as regards Borough as extended)	1st July, 1935

### Byelaws

With respect to Markets	16th February, 1882
With respect to the Driving of Cattle	5th March, 1888
With respect to the Obstruction of Foot- passengers	8th August, 1892
For the navigation of the River Torridge within the Harbour of Bideford	4th July, 1894
With respect to the Lighting of Vehicles	11th November, 1899
With respect to the disturbance of persons assembled in public buildings, shooting- galleries, round-a-bouts, etc., street music and bad language	25th June, 1900
Prohibiting Spitting in Public Places	31st January, 1911
With respect to the Victoria Park Pleasure Ground	18th January, 1913
With respect to New Streets and Buildings	10th July, 1928 and 1st August, 1939
With respect to the Management of the Public Cemetery (Repealed in Part)	18th August, 1930 and 1st June, 1947
Regulating the use of Motor Boats within the Harbour	17th August, 1931
With respect to the Public Slaughterhouse	15th March, 1932

Relating to Violent Behaviour on Elementary School Premises .....	1st April, 1951
For the Regulation of Advertisements .....	3rd December, 1936
With respect to the Decent Conduct of Persons using Public Sanitary Conveniences .....	1st April, 1937
With respect to :—	
(1) Nuisances contrary to Public Decency	
(2) Deposit of litter to the Detriment of Public Amenities	
(3) Wireless, Loudspeakers, Gramophones, etc. ....	1st February, 1937
For securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food .....	15th November, 1950
With respect to the Supply of Water.....	1st. April, 1951
Sale of Contraceptives in Slot Machines	18th, January, 1950
Prohibiting cycling on certain footpaths	1st. April, 1951
With respect to Victoria Park .....	1st February, 1953
With respect to the Fouling of Footpaths by Dogs .....	15th June, 1953
With respect to Library, Reading Room and Museum .....	18th September, 1953
With respect to Cycling on the Riverbank	9th November, 1953
With respect to Building Byelaws .....	31st December, 1953



TABLE 1.

## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

[illegible]



**TABLE II.**  
**VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1953 AND PREVIOUS 5 YEARS**

Years	Estimated population for Year	Births.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District.		Nett Deaths belonging to the District			
		Nett				Under 1 year of age		At all Ages	
		Number	Rate per 1000	Number	Rate per 1000 population	Number	Rate per 1000 births	Number	Rate per 1000 population
1948	10360	169	16.31	118	11.38	7	41.42	118	11.38
1949	10260	170	16.56	152	14.81	1	5.88	152	14.81
1950	10270	149	14.11	152	14.8	4	26.15	152	14.8
1951	10200	167	16.37	187	18.33	3	17.96	187	18.33
1952	10170	152	14.95	143	14.06	3	19.74	143	14.06
1953	10210	146	14.29	152	14.89	5	34.25	152	14.89





# CAUSES OF AND AGES AT DEATH DURING 1953

6

Nett deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring within or without the District.

	All Ages		Under 1 year		1 and under 2 years		2 and under 5 years		5 and under 15 years		15 and under 25 years		25 and under 35 years		35 and under 45 years		45 and under 55 years.		55 and under 65 years		65 and under 75 years		75 and under 85 years		85 and under 95 years		95 and over.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Tuberculosis—Respiratory .....	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, stomach .....	1	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms .....	11	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	1	1	1	2	1	3	1	1	—	—	—	—
Vascular lesions of nervous system .....	9	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	2	2	5	2	3	—	—	—
Coronary disease, angina .....	8	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	1	3	—	1	0	—	2	—	1	—
Hypertension with heart disease .....	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Other heart diseases .....	10	26	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	6	6	7	2	7	—	3	—
Other circulatory diseases .....	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Influenza .....	3	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia .....	3	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis .....	4	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and nephrosis .....	3	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hyperplasia of prostate .....	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	5	6	1	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Motor vehicle accidents .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
All other accidents .....	2	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	1	—	1	—	—	—
Suicide .....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	70	82	3	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	2	8	5	8	6	17	21	24	24	5	17	—	4

TABLE IV.—OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

CASES.		Deaths	Total Blindness	Vision Impaired	Vision not Impaired
NIL	At home	In hospital	NIL	NIL	NIL
	NIL	NIL			

TABLE V.—TUBERCULOSIS.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES.						DEATHS.			
	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male		Female	Male		Female	Male		Female	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5—10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10—15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15—20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20—25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35—45	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
55—65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	7	3	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—



TABLE VI.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various ages under 1 year.

CAUSES OF DEATH	Under 1 week	1 to 2 weeks	2 to 3 weeks	3 to 4 weeks	Total under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 3 months	3 to 6 months	6 to 9 months	9 to 12 months	Total Deaths under 1 year
Pneumonia .....	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	2
Other defined and ill-defined diseases .....	2	—	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	3
TOTALS —	3	—	—	1	4	—	1	—	—	5



## ANNUAL REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

*To His Worship The Mayor and Members of the*  
BIDEFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL.

Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Second Annual Report on the sanitary administration of the area.

A perusal of the summary of inspections will indicate the amount of work undertaken during the year. It will be seen that by far the greater amount of time has been spent on meat inspection than any other branch of operations especially when it is realised that many types of visits occupy comparatively short periods of time as against the much longer periods covered by individual visits to the slaughter-house. This is a most important part of the Department's work and justifies the large amount of time spent on it.

It will also be noticed that food premises have not received any but the barest minimum of attention. This is a state of affairs which should not exist and gives me cause for much concern. This was made the subject of a special report early in the year when I asked that an additional qualified inspector be appointed to enable the work of the department to be undertaken in a more satisfactory manner. Regrettably it was decided that such an appointment be not made.

In the sphere of housing I have to report that no routine house-to-house inspection has been possible. Such improvements in conditions as have been effected have arisen from the investigation of complaints.

I am much indebted to the very practical help given me by Mr. Daniel who is attached to this department and appreciate the clerical assistance of Mr. Brimacombe but, I cannot cease to reiterate that the appointment of additional qualified staff is necessary for the efficient carrying out of all the duties placed on this department.

### DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS

Dwellings inspected under Public Health Acts	.....	66
Revisits made under Public Health Acts	.....	123
Miscellaneous under Public Health Acts	.....	98
Dwellings inspected under Housing Acts	.....	2
Revisits under Housing Acts	.....	2
Overcrowding	.....	1

New Drainage work	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	34
Defective Drainage	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	26
Factories	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	7
Factories—Re-visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Refuse Tip	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Rodent Control	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	20
Rodent Control—Re-visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16
Insect Pests	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Insect Pests—Re-visits	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Infectious Diseases	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	15
Petroleum	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5
Meat Inspection	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	510
Fried Fish Shop	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Inspection of Food and Food Premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	37
Do.				Re-visits	.....	7
Water Samples	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	91
Miscellaneous Visits <i>re</i> Water Supplies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	14
Council Houses (including investigation of Council House applications)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	132
Milk and Dairies Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Do.				Re-visits	.....	1
Shops Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Pet Animals Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Do.				Re-visits	.....	1
Smoke Nuisance	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Do.				Re-visits	.....	8
Marine Store	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Market	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Caravans and Temporary Dwellings	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Number of Preliminary Notices served	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	44
Do.				completed	.....	40
Number of Statutory Notices served under Public Health Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3
Do.				completed	.....	2
Number of Statutory Notices served under Housing Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Do.				completed	.....	—
Number of Demolition Orders made under Section II, Housing Act, 1936	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Number of Houses demolished	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Number of Houses demolished voluntarily by owner	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Number of Closing Orders made of part of a building under Housing Act, 1936	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—
Number of Notices served under Factory and Workshops Act	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
The chief defects that have been dealt with are :						
New roofs of dwelling houses fitted	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3

Roofs of Dwelling Houses repaired	20
Eaves, Guttering and Down Pipes repaired	8
Damp walls treated	11
New Windows fitted	1
Defective Windows repaired	20
Doors repaired	12
Locks repaired or renewed	9
Floors repaired	9
New W.C. pans fitted	5
Defective W.Cs. repaired	7
New Flushing Cisterns fitted	2
Defective Flushing Cisterns repaired	21
Drains cleared	18
Fire Grates repaired	15
Chimneys repaired	3
Cookers repaired	9
Smoke nuisance abated	2
Defective water pipes repaired	21
Defective gas pipes repaired	3
Exterior plastering repaired	5
Interior plastering repaired	11
Ceilings repaired	6
Stairs repaired	1
Garden fences repaired	3
Garden paths repaired	1
Re-decoration of rooms	16
Waste water pipes repaired	4
Accumulations cleared	2

### HOUSES.

Number of New Houses completed and occupied during the year :

(1) By the Town Council	42
(2) By Private Enterprise	25
	<hr/>
	67
	<hr/>

The forty-two Council Houses were sited as follows :—

Twenty-three Houses at Pynes Lane

Twelve Houses at Capern Road

Seven Houses at Stucley Road

Steady progress has been made in the provision of additional accommodation but the number of houses available still lag far behind the demand. I think it would be fair to say that the Council's Housing Programme has kept pace with the number of new applications without in effect reducing the size of the list of applicants for council house accommodation.

### Infectious Diseases and Infection.

The following cases of Infectious Diseases have been notified during the year :—

Scarlet Fever .....	6
Measles .....	150
Tuberculosis .....	10
Acute Polio-myelitis .....	3
Whooping Cough .....	11
Pneumonia .....	2

Twenty three patients were removed for treatment at the North Devon Joint Isolation Hospital.

Number of houses disinfected for :—

Notifiable Infectious Diseases .....	9
Tuberculosis .....	4
Other Infectious Diseases .....	1
Verminous conditions .....	5

### FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

#### PART I. OF THE ACT.

**Inspections** for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	51	7	2	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	27	—	—	—
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) .....	18	—	—	—

**2. Defects Found.**

Particulars	Number of Defects.			Number of cases in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Want of Cleanliness (Section 1)	Nil	Nil	—	Nil
Overcrowding (Section 2)	Nil	Nil	—	Nil
Unreasonable Temperature (Section 3)	Nil	Nil	—	Nil
Inadequate Ventilation (Section 4)	Nil	Nil	—	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (Section 6)	Nil	Nil	—	Nil
Sanitary — Insufficient	Nil	Nil	—	Nil
Conveniences — unsuitable or defective	1	1	—	—
Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	—	Nil
Other Offences	1	1	—	Nil
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	—	—

**Part VIII of the Act. OUTWORK. (Sections 110 and 111)**

Nature of Work.	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110(1)(c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council.	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome Premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel— Making, &c	187	—	—	—	—	—

# **RAINFALL**

The Borough Surveyor kindly supplied the following particulars of the rainfall recorded at Gammaton and Jennetts for the year 1953.

				<i>Gammaton</i>	<i>Jennetts</i>
January	.....	.....	.....	0.98	0.90
February	.....	.....	.....	1.86	1.93
March	.....	.....	.....	1.11	1.31
April	.....	.....	.....	2.39	2.63
May	.....	.....	.....	3.75	3.86
June	.....	.....	.....	1.43	1.18
July	.....	.....	.....	5.44	5.37
August	.....	.....	.....	3.04	3.36
September	.....	.....	.....	3.82	4.09
October	.....	.....	.....	2.81	2.58
November		.....	.....	2.78	3.31
December	.....	.....	.....	1.33	1.27
				<u>30.74</u>	<u>31.79</u>
				Inches	Inches



## **WATER SUPPLY.**

The Water supply of the town is obtained from two sources namely Jennetts Reservoir and Gammaton Reservoir. In 1950, to augment the Supply from Jennetts a pumping station was installed at Edge Mill to pump water from the Yeo-Duntz stream into the Jennettes Reservoir. This supply should now be sufficient to obviate any curtailment of water for domestic purposes even during a long dry period.

Ninety samples of water were taken from various points on the Jennetts supply and sent to the Public Health Laboratory at Exeter for Bacteriological Examination. Eighteen of these samples were of "raw" water which were sent for examination to test the quality of the water from the springs and streams that run into the Reservoir. The other seventy-two were samples of water that had been filtered and chlorinated. Twenty-five of these latter samples fell below the standard and the other forty-seven samples were Class I of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped supplies.

Forty-five samples of water were taken at various points on the Gammaton supply and sent for Bacteriological Examination. Thirteen of these samples were of "raw" water which were sent for examination to test the quality of the water from the springs that run into the Reservoir. The other thirty-two were samples of water that had been filtered and chlorinated. Seven of these latter samples fell below the standard and the twenty-five samples were Class I of the Ministry of Health's classification for piped supplies.

Where samples fell below the standard, the causes were investigated and remedial action taken.

## **FLIES**

The surface of refuse tips was treated with "Tip Dressing" to prevent the breeding of flies and other insects.

## **RODENT CONTROL**

During the year the annual testing of sewers was carried out. It was found from this that the sewers were for the most part free from infestation. A maintenance treatment was undertaken with satisfactory results.

The Refuse Tip was frequently treated by pre-baiting and poisoned baits to exterminate rats, and this was generally successful.

Eighteen dwelling houses and seven business premises were dealt with by trapping and poisoning to rid the premises of small infestations of rats.

One business premises was dealt with by trapping to rid the premises of mice.

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

### Public Abattoir.

The Ministry of Food took over the use of the Council's Public Abattoir in January, 1940. The slaughtering of animals, the dressing of the carcasses, the inspection of the meat and the allocation to the various butchers in the area comprising Bideford Borough, Bideford Rural District, Northam Urban District, Great Torrington Borough and Torrington Rural District is all done at this Central Depot.

During the year 13,634 animals were slaughtered and dressed at the Public Abattoir and of these 92 bullocks, 120 calves, 772 sheep and 221 pigs were sent to the abattoir for emergency slaughter.

This is a considerable increase on the previous years throughout.

A large proportion of this increase no doubt arose from an outbreak of Foot & Mouth Disease in a nearby district when the Council's abattoir, and one other, dealt with all the animal contacts of the outbreak which had to be slaughtered for food. During the three weeks of the restrictions imposed by this outbreak, twice the number of animals were slaughtered as compared with an average monthly figure. To deal with this large influx of animals slaughtermen were imported alternately from places as far afield as Weston-super-Mare, Torquay, Dartmouth and Taunton.

In addition to the above there were brought to the Abattoir the "dressed" carcasses of 2 bullocks, 4 calves, 86 sheep and 17 pigs.

These dressed carcasses were of animals that had been slaughtered and dressed at farms, as the animals, because of injury or some other emergency, had been unable to travel to the abattoir.

The recurrence in recent years of an infestation in cattle known as *cysticercus bovis* has continued during the year; 96 cattle being found to be affected. The importance of this condition lies in the fact that viable cysts consumed by the human being are likely to give rise to tape worm infestation in the human. Where cattle have been found to be affected unavailing efforts have been made to trace back through the life history of the animal in an endeavour to trace a human source.

**Stunning.** In compliance with Section 1 of the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933, all animals that are killed in the slaughterhouse are rendered insensible to pain by means of a mechanically operated instrument.



The following Tables give a summary of the work carried out :—

TABLE A. Gives details of the animals killed and the number of carcasses or organs condemned, also showing percentages of the carcasses affected, differentiating between

1—All diseases except Tuberculosis.

2—Tuberculosis only.

TABLE B. Gives the weight of the Meat and Offal condemned and the causes of condemnation.

TABLE C. Shows the amount of "Other Foodstuffs" condemned and the reasons for condemnation.

TABLE A.

**Carcases Inspected and Condemned.**

The following Table is as suggested by the Ministry of Health.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number of Animals killed	1363	521	2396	7228	2126
Number brought in dressed .....	1	1	4	86	17
Number inspected	1364	522	2400	7314	2143
All diseases except Tuberculosis Whole carcasses con- demned .....	3	29	113	193	42
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned .....	818	368	17	2057	268
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis .....	60.19	76.05	5.42	30.76	14.46
Tuberculosis only Whole carcasses con- demned .....	5	16	2	—	7
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned .....	98	94	—	—	195
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	7.55	21.07	0.08	—	9.43





**TABLE B. SUMMARY OF FOOD CONDEMNATIONS WITH CAUSE OF CONDEMNATION AND WEIGHT.**

Food Stuffs Condemned	Cause of Condemnation	Whole Carcases	Pt. Carcases	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Beef .....	Tuberculosis .....	21	—	7	0	2	24	28	11	1	0
Beef Parts .....	do. ....	—	37	2	6	1	24				
Beef Offal .....	do. ....	—	155	2	11	3	3				
Beef .....	Other Causes .....	32	—	6	18	3	21				
Beef Parts .....	do. ....	—	79	2	2	0	17				
Beef Offal .....	do. ....	—	1107	7	11	0	23	2	15	1	10
Veal .....	Tuberculosis .....	2	—	—	1	0	19				
Veal .....	Other Causes .....	113	—	2	13	2	6				
Veal Parts .....	do. ....	—	2	—	—	—	17				
Veal Offal .....	do. ....	—	15	—	—	1	24				
Pork .....	Tuberculosis .....	7	—	—	14	2	15	5	13	3	24
Pork Parts .....	do. ....	—	195	1	8	3	16				
Pork .....	Other Causes .....	42	—	2	11	1	17				
Pork Parts .....	do. ....	—	59	—	8	1	24				
Pork Offal .....	do. ....	—	209	—	10	2	8				
Mutton .....	Fevered .....	61	—	2	0	1	14	8	2	3	19
Do. ....	Emaciation .....	27	—	—	11	1	9				
Do. ....	Dropsy .....	24	—	—	11	0	7				
Do. ....	Pyæmia .....	20	—	—	11	0	3				
Do. ....	Moribund .....	15	—	—	8	2	24				
Do. ....	Ill Bled .....	8	—	—	4	3	27				
Do. ....	Pneumonia .....	6	—	—	4	0	18				
Do. ....	Septic Metritis .....	6	—	—	3	2	14				
Do. ....	Septicaemia .....	6	—	—	3	1	21				
Do. ....	Oedema .....	5	—	—	2	0	8				
Do. ....	Black Garget .....	5	—	—	2	0	11				
Do. ....	Peritonitis .....	4	—	—	2	0	15				
Do. ....	Injuries .....	3	—	—	1	1	9				
Do. ....	do. ....	—	84	—	5	3	27				
Do. ....	Pleurisy .....	2	—	—	1	1	15				
Do. ....	do. ....	—	6	—	1	0	1				
Do. ....	Jaundice .....	1	—	—	—	3	7				
Do. ....	Abscesses .....	—	23	—	2	0	18				
Do. ....	Dropsical .....	—	13	—	—	3	13				
Do. ....	Arthritis .....	—	13	—	—	2	13				
Mutton offal .....	Distoma Hepaticum Cysts and Congestion .....	—	1918	2	3	2	25				
								8	2	3	19
								45	3	1	25

TABLE C. OTHER FOOD STUFFS

FOODSTUFFS CONDEMNED	CAUSE OF CONDEMNATION	Tons.	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.	ozs.
166 Tins of Meat	Tins blown or decomposition	.....	3	2	24	15½
40 Tins of Vegetables	do.	.....		2	16	14
14 Tins of Fish	do.	.....			14	4
3 Tins of Soup	do.	.....			1	9½
617 Tins of Fruit	Tins blown or perforated	.....	7	3	27	11½
72 Tins of Milk	do.	.....		2	13	9
2 Tins of Jam	do.	.....			3	8
1 Tin of Cream	do.	.....				6
3 Tins of Fruit Juice	do.	.....			3	3
2 Tins of Mince-meat	do.	.....			1	10½
6 Jars of Fruit	Fermentation	.....			5	1
35 Fruit Puddings	Mould Growths	.....			17	8
3½ Cartons Dried Fruit	Contents damp and musty	.....		3	21	0
3 Cooked Hams	Maggots and decomposition	.....			23	10
Parts hindquarter Frozen Beef	Bone Taint	.....		2	13	0
2 Part Boxes of Lard	Mould, stain and tainted	.....			14	0
5 Packages of Sausages	Sour	.....		1	5	0
21 Packages of Sugar	Contaminated with Liquid Bleach	.....			0	0
5 Packages of Flour	do.	.....			15	0
63 Packages of Chocolate	Damaged by Mice	.....			14	2
2 Bags of Prawns	Decomposition	.....		2	18	0
Whalemeat	do.	.....		2	10	0
1 Bag of Tripe	In state of putrefaction	.....			8	0
Pieces of Bacon	do.	.....			15	15
Total		.....	17	1	17	15

### **Butchers' Shops.**

The ten butchers' shops in the Town are kept in good condition and all comply with the requirements of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924, in that they are provided with moveable glass fronts. The butchers' shops in the Butchers' Row are under a covered Market Place.

### **Milk Supply.**

Several of the Producer Retailers have given up their Retail Trade and are now producing and selling the milk wholesale to the two Milk Depots in Bideford. Both these depots have large retail businesses.

### **Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936 and 1938.**

The two Milk Depots in the Town have a dealers licence authorising the use of 'Tuberculin Tested' for bottling of Tuberculin Tested Milk. This milk is obtained from farms where Tuberculin Tested herds are kept.

One Depot has a licence for the use of the special designation "Pasteurised" in relation to the milk treated by the Pasteurising process.

The "Holder" Method is employed for Pasteurisation.

### **Petroleum Licenses.**

Thirty Nine petroleum storage licenses were issued during the year.

I am, Mr. Mayor and Councillors,

Your obedient Servant,

A. E. T. NETTING.









